

my colleagues in the field of education, have earned the title long before—by having been a teacher, a member of a most honorable profession.

Over the years, teachers have insured a bright future through the education of our youth. Teachers have been willing to share their knowledge and adjust to meet the needs of students. In our present society where the family unit is under constant exposure to external and internal conflicts and pressures, we look toward our teachers to be role models who play a vital role in the development of every child placed under their supervision. On Teachers' Recognition Month and, especially, on Teachers' Appreciation Day, I commend and congratulate my esteemed colleagues in the field of education, the teachers of Guam.

# PIPELINE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOE SKEEN**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. SKEEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to support S. 2438, the Pipeline Safety legislation, and also to implore the House of Representatives to pass it quickly and send it to the President for his signature.

In August, in my Congressional District in New Mexico, a pipeline explosion took the lives of eleven family members who were camping in an area located south of Carlsbad along the Pecos River. This terrible tragedy shook our state to the core. I visited the site of this disaster and I cannot begin to describe what I saw and the impact it has had on the lives of countless citizens in New Mexico.

This legislation is bipartisan and it passed the U.S. Senate with no opposition. This bill will help us avoid these terrible accidents in the future. Congress does not have time to play politics with this legislation. We don't have time for extended conferences on this legislation. Those who feel more is needed in this bill can introduce those changes next year. If we don't pass this bill we will have no legislation for at least another two years. It is unconscionable for this Congress not to pass legislation this year. To those who would vote against this legislation I say shame on you. This bill imposes new pipeline testing requirements on pipeline operators. It imposes higher penalties for safety violations and invests in new technology to improve pipeline safety. This bill increases the funding for pipeline safety as well as increasing state oversight and local government input. President Clinton supports this bill, Senate Democratic Senators support this bill.

I want to thank Chairman SHUSTER and the leadership of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for all of the hard work they have done in bringing this important legislation before us. We need to pass S. 2438.

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING CLAIRE  
HOWARD

**HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 12, 2000*

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Claire Howard, one of my constituents, on her appointment as the President-Elect of the United States Serra Club. In 2001, Mrs. Howard will become the first woman President of the USA Council and also the first in the history of Serra International.

Mrs. Howard is a charter member of the Bethlehem Serra Club and over the years has served as an active member on almost all of the standing committees. Of particular note is Mrs. Howard's service as the Coordinator of the Serra Clubs of Allentown Diocese's "Life/Vocation Awareness Weekend." The weekend offers any adult who would like to explore the possibilities of entering the priesthood or a religious order a time to reflect, pray and interact with priests. In addition to her work with the Serra Club, Mrs. Howard is an active member of the Morning Star Rotary Club, Junior League of the Lehigh Valley, Bethlehem Palatka Club, and the Bethlehem Quota Club.

I applaud Mrs. Claire Howard on her new appointment and wish her the best of luck in this new assignment.

HONORING CECIL WALT

**HON. SCOTT McINNIS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 12, 2000*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I take this moment to honor the life of Cecil Walt. Cecil recently passed away at age 98. Cecil spent nearly half of his life serving the Grand Valley in a number of different capacities. As family and friends mourn this great loss, I would like to pay tribute to this remarkable human being.

Cecil moved to the Grand Valley in 1944, settling in Grand Junction, Colorado. During his time on the western slope he owned and operated five different automotive stores, but was best known for his work for the community. It was not long after residing in Grand Junction that he decided to run for mayor and was elected. His work for the city will forever be enshrined along the Main Street Shopping Park, which he was instrumental in constructing.

Cecil's work to improve the city of Grand Junction earned national attention in 1963 when Look Magazine named it an "All-American City." Cecil was also very active in crusades to protect western slope water rights and to ensure that the Eisenhower Tunnel was built where it stands today, to ensure motorists safe passage from the western slope on into Denver.

Former Colorado State Senator Tilman Bishop, in recent article by Zack Barnett in The Grand Junction Daily Sentinel, had this to say about former Mayor Cecil Walt, "He was a visionary, he was always putting things together for the future."

Cecil worked very hard to ensure that the Grand Junction community was a better place for all to live. He served his community, State, and Nation admirably and he will be greatly missed.

TRANSPORTATION RECALL ENHANCEMENT, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND DOCUMENTATION (TREAD) ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 10, 2000*

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the so-called "TREAD Act" and I want to commend Chairman BLILEY, Chairman TAUZIN, Chairman UPTON, Ranking Member Mr. DINGELL, Mr. LUTHER, and the many Commerce Committee colleagues who have worked very hard on this bill for bringing this legislation to the floor at this time. Hopefully, with time running out we can convince the Senate to similarly take up legislation on this issue and we can get a bill to the President's desk before Congress adjourns.

This legislation was initially prompted by the Firestone recall of some of the over 6 million tires used primarily on the Ford Explorer. As has become readily apparent during the course of our congressional investigation, both Firestone and Ford knew that there were problems years before they told the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) or the American public.

This legislation has many provisions designed to enable NHTSA to perform its job better and new measures to increase the safety of American motorists and give consumers needed information. The bill includes an increase in civil penalties, consumer protections against the resale of defective or recalled tires, and a mandate to NHTSA to update the tire safety standards, which haven't been updated since 1968.

In addition, I successfully amended the bill in Committee to require NHTSA to conduct dynamic testing for rollovers. The fact is that these SUVs, minivans, light trucks represented in 1997 some 46 percent of all new vehicle sales in the United States and they are obviously very popular vehicles.

Mr. Speaker, according to NHTSA, rollovers are the second most common type of fatal crash after head-on crashes for all cars—but it is the most common type of fatal crash for light trucks, which includes SUVs, pickup trucks and minivans.

And we know today that sport utility vehicles have a 3 times higher probability of rolling over than passenger cars due to their higher center of gravity. And we also know that although traffic deaths reached an all time record low last year, rollover deaths continued to climb—to over 10,000 fatalities last year. In addition to fatalities, rollovers cause 55,000–60,000 serious injuries each year.

In my view, given the nature of the types of vehicles on our roadways and auto showrooms today, this dynamic rollover testing is overdue and I believe it will enhance information available to consumers purchasing vehicles for the families.